

Platypus & Rakali Citizen Science Program

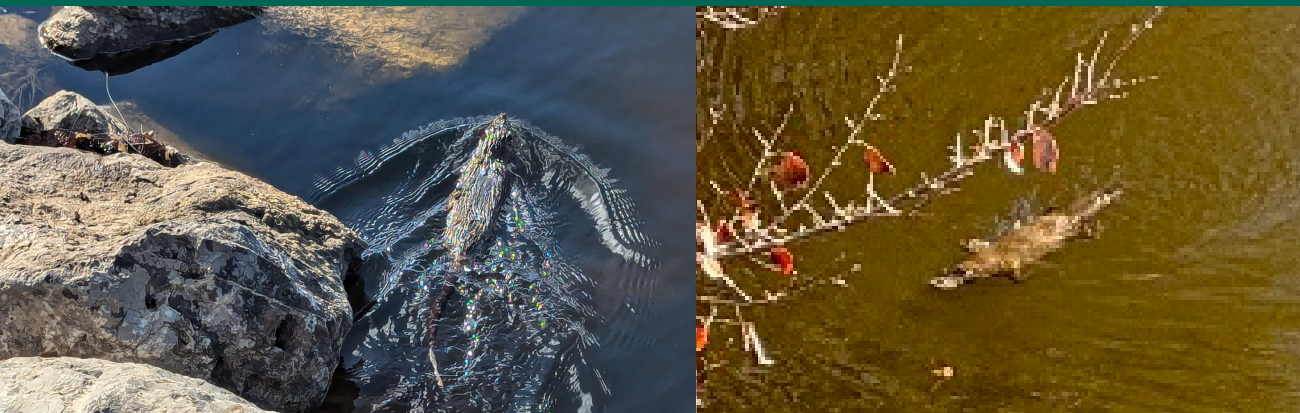
2024 Annual Report

- The 2024 reporting year saw a significant drop in sightings across the LGA. Anecdotal reporting from the public notes a healthy platypus populations, but this has not translated to reported sightings
- Platypus sightings dropped over 70% from 2023 reports, with Rakali sightings down 50%
- We had sightings in Queanbeyan, Bungendore and Braidwood. Queanbeyan sightings were limited to the Queanbeyan River, Bungendore sightings were in and around Bungendore Ponds, and we had a sighting at Mona Creek in Braidwood.



Total sightings:
21 Platypus
10 Rakali

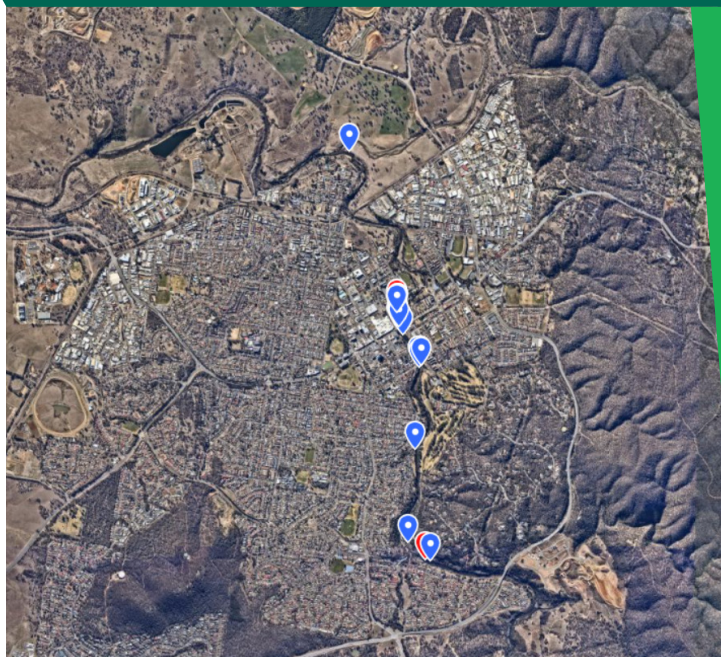
Photo Credits - Robyn Chatfield (top left), Simone Elise (top right) - 2023 photo
Ben Beard (bottom left), Robyn Chatfield (bottom middle), Andrew Fox (bottom right)



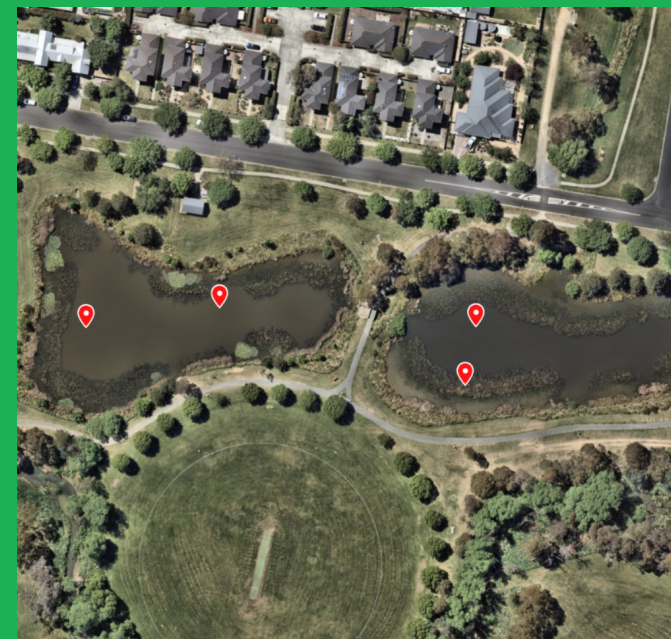


Rakali sightings remain low, and haven't bounced back from pre-2022 levels. More research is needed to identify how our resident population has been impacted.

We had sightings in Queanbeyan, Bungendore and Braidwood!



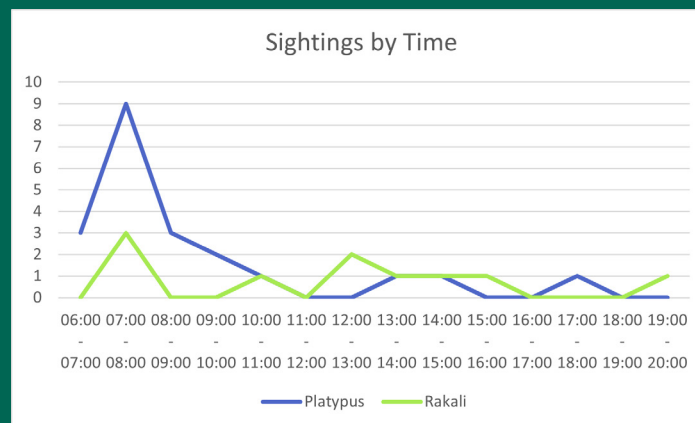
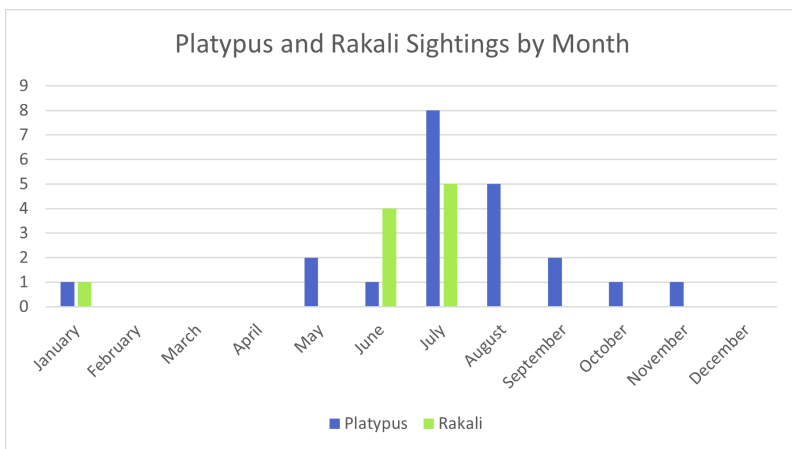
Above: sightings in Queanbeyan covered the Queanbeyan River from the confluence with the Molonglo River to Swan Place.



Above: Rakali were spotted several times at Bungendore Ponds.

Below: We had one Platypus sighting in Braidwood - in Mona Creek.

Sightings spiked in the key platypus season, with a majority of sightings in July. There were only 2 sightings between January and April, and only two sightings between October and December.



Sightings were most common before 9am

